

CONFIDENTIAL

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT SMA Plan for Obtaining Products from Western Germany

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. During the first two weeks of December 1947, economic conferences were held in all state capitals in the Russian Zone at the request of SMA. The directors of state-owned enterprises and officials in the ministries of economics received instructions from the economic sections of SMA.
2. The Russians ordered that various firms negotiate with factories in Western Germany in order to gain scarce materials for the Russian Zone; tires, chemicals, machinery, and thread were specifically mentioned. These items are to be bought directly or by barter. The SMA has promised silk stockings, briquettes, photographic materials, and other items for use in barter.
3. The firms concerned have been instructed to conceal the fact that they are working on Russian orders. Source states that German participants in the conferences had the impression that the chief purpose is to disrupt the Western German economy, rather than merely to bolster the economy of the Russian Zone.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☒

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